

## Dugan, Brett

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**From:** (b) (6) <(b) (6)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 06, 2017 7:36 AM  
**To:** AirQuality  
**Subject:** Air quality

We have been asked to post this by a local man regarding what he is sending to the Tribe regarding the air quality proposal.

He says anyone is allowed to re post, copy or glean from the content to make their comments to the tribe.

[AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com](mailto:AirQuality@kalispeltribe.com)

The short notice the tribe has given was intentional.

The tribe do not want community involvement.

They are not really required to listen to it.

The EPA makes the final decision and makes it based on whether the applicant followed the proper procedures when going thru the application phase.

If the Tribe has already made the decision (and I assume they have) and they follow protocol then that is ALL that is needed.

A public hearing is a farce and is part of the application and required by law, which is likely the only reason they are having it.

Licensing your vehicle will now require the emissions inspection in this county.

If you have a farm within 100 air miles of Usk, you are going to take this one up the bum. 100 miles goes over into other counties and states. How dare the tribe impose this on anyone else.

They are just going through the motions and we HAVE NO REAL SAY IN THIS.

We will not be able to burn brush, fields, or have wood stoves. No more fires in the Lodge (teepee). You and your elders along with the rest of us will live cold in the winter during air inversions.

Eventually you will say goodbye to the campfires in the yard.

Using wood for back up heat in the winter will be almost un heard of. We had air inversions and stagnation many of the coldest days this last winter in North Pend Oreille.

It will be a catch 22. You can't get insurance with wood stoves but you can't rely on electric affordably heating the older homes in this county.

The mills small and large will slowly disappear.

Never again will concrete be mined and milled in North Pend Oreille. And NO I am not talking about the old mill that put dust in everyone's lungs and made the earth unable to be used for food plants.

Even the new concrete mills will not pass these new standards and be built in this county.

The pulp mill that we are all worried about closing will close sooner.

This will not attract business to this county. It will push it away and the only thing people will come here for will not sustain the way of life here. Just ask your local restraint owner or hotel owner.

If the tribe cared about this county they would of built their casino closer to their people so they could of benefited from the jobs.

Unpaved county roads will be closed to reduce dust and maintain compliance.

This will also affect your waste water up and down the county that is using aerators to stir your waste water to aid in evaporation.

The state and fed will say but we will help with those costs and sure they will.

But it will be at the loss of more control of your way of life from your tap and waste water, to river usage and all recreation.

Forestry will be impacted and the health of the forest will again suffer because of restrictions on them and the need to reduce forest fire fuel.

Grazing will be impacted too.

I agree with someone else's comments that were posted on the internet whole heatedly and have listed them in detail below.

I am glad they were shared so the layman who can't understand most of what is in the proposal can comment intelligently.

The Kalispel Tribe of Indians have requested, as allowed by the Clean Air Act, to have this area reclassified from a Class 2 to a Class 1 air quality area. The classification from a Class 2 (which is what we are at right now and what most of the U.S. is at) to a Class 1 requires a 10% reduction in emissions. The emissions includes dust (unpaved county roads, winds blowing across a plowed field, smoke from your wood stove as well as "permitted" uses for industries based upon current state and/or federal standards). Forest Fires do not get included in emissions. Prescribed fires are not under the act. Does this mean the burning of slash for your own timber cutting?

The map shows the 100 km radius (as the crow flies) that would be included in this request. This Clean Air re-designation would include ALL of Pend Oreille County, ALL of Stevens County, parts of Ferry County, goes into Canada, Bonner and Boundary County and into Montana. The closer a parcel of land is to the reservation the more restrictive the requirements on emissions. Class 1 areas can increase the "impact zone" up to 250 miles. Class 1 re-designations require a minimum of 10% reductions in current emissions.

Although this is a federal program through the Environmental Protection Agency, the Washington State Department of Ecology monitors and sets standards for rural areas of Washington State. (Side note -That means once again the West side liberal agenda will control one more area of our lives.)

If a new business wants to come into the area they must use best control qualities available and they cannot take the emissions above the limits set with a Class 1 designation. There is a very technical review and there is an impact evaluation/analysis done on neighboring properties. There can be punitive action on those who violate the process.

The Pend Oreille Valley traps area, especially in winter with inversions. If things were to get too bad, then only "certified" wood stoves could be used unless wood is your ONLY source of heat. It won't be the Tribe that decides if you can use your wood stove, it will be the federal government, through the Washington State Department of Ecology. If emissions get too high during our inversions (foggy days) then something has to change- that's when you get announcements like your wood burning stoves cannot be used, businesses have to make changes to their emissions, etc. (Side note – are you going to tell PNC and Tech they cannot run until the inversion is gone – my question, but I have no answer to that. Again, it won't be the Tribe that gets to decide it will be the State enforcing federal law).

If an area exceeds standards three years in a row, then the feds get a plan to get the area back to below federal standards. This can mean things like vehicle emission testing and more.

Specifics mentioned at the meeting:

- Currently the County sands our roads in the winter. According to the DOE this can still be done but if there are problems with emissions meeting or exceeding the limits then the County must take action to reduce dust into the air (they already sweep either with water or when it rains, which helps eliminate the dust). If the County were to add more dirt roads, then other industries in the area would have to reduce their emissions output. This means increases in pollution controls for our existing businesses. Are these businesses going to stay if they have to make huge investments to keep operating?
- The Tribe's report talks about the Economic Region but that does not reflect Pend Oreille County alone – it uses generalizations which includes Spokane County which is growing. Pend Oreille County needs more businesses with living

wages, not just minimum wage jobs. A re-classification can have an impact on Ponderay Newsprint, Vaagen's, Pend Oreille Mines and others that employ the citizens in Pend Oreille County.

- The report also states that there are approximately 400 Kalispel members, one third of which live on the reservation (roughly 133). Of this, 54% are under the age of 18 (72 approximate) which then leaves approximately 61 Kalispel adults making a decision that affects this entire County as well as our neighboring counties and states.

- The County revenues have increased in total 2% since 2012 but expenses have gone up 30%. Without new businesses to help offset this discrepancy we can expect either a reduction in county services and/or an increase in our taxes.

I don't know anyone who doesn't love our area including our water, forests and clean air and we want it to stay that way – the way it is now, which is Class 2. Most of us would love to have our kids grow up, live close, and be able to work in jobs which provide living wages (not minimum wage) and benefits. Without some common sense to this we won't be having new businesses even take a look at our County, and surrounding areas. Who is going to pick up the taxes for services that are needed to maintain law enforcement, medical services, and road department services if we don't increase our business climate and property values? It is going to be those of us who live in the county paying the property taxes. Drive out existing businesses and you will be picking up the cost of power as well.

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